

HOUSE BILL 1024

By Hawk

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 70,  
Chapter 1, Part 2 and Title 70, Chapter 1, Part 3,  
relative to wildlife resources.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-1-302, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

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(1) The wildlife resources agency is authorized to enter into partnership agreements with nonprofit organizations for the purpose of promoting and supporting the goals and objectives of the agency including, but not limited to, marketing opportunities.

(2) This subsection shall not be interpreted to abridge any powers or duties delegated to the agency in this part.

(3) The nonprofit partners shall have their boards of directors elected by a process approved by the governor or the governor's designee.

(4) The nonprofit partners shall be properly incorporated under the laws of the state of Tennessee, and approved by the internal revenue service as organizations that are exempt from federal income tax under § 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 501(a), by virtue of being organizations described in § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3).

(5) Costs to underwrite the nonprofit partners' activities related to marketing opportunities shall be borne from revenues of the nonprofit partners and no state employee shall benefit from such proceeds. All proceeds in excess

of the cost of operation shall be deposited exclusively into the wildlife resources fund as established in § 70-1-404 and shall not revert to the general fund.

(6) The nonprofit partners shall annually submit to the governor, the speakers of the senate and the house of representatives, and the chairman of the Tennessee wildlife resources commission, within ninety (90) days after the end of their fiscal year, a complete and detailed report setting forth their operation and accomplishments.

(7) The nonprofit partners shall be subject to examination and audit by the comptroller of the treasury in the same manner as prescribed for departments and agencies of the state.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 70, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

70-1-2\_. The wildlife resources commission is authorized to develop guidelines for the use of advertising on appropriate agency motor vehicles and vessels. Such guidelines may include, but are not limited to, signage placement, safety concerns and prohibited practices.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.